

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1912

Where there is no hope there can be no endeavor.—Johnson.

CONSTRUCTIVE WORK AT HILO

Delegates from Honolulu to the first inter-island civic conference, held at Hilo this week, have returned with the belief that the convention will result in great good to the territory. The spirit of earnest cooperation shown at the convention will be diffused over the islands and ought to result in a better understanding of the problems of individual cities and counties and a "pull all together" on plans affecting good government and efficient government in Hawaii.

As good roads are one of Hawaii's most pressing problems, so the plans presented to develop the highway systems here are of very much interest. H. K. Bishop's suggestion of a state-aid system, republished in another column of this issue, deserves careful study. Mr. Bishop is not only in the front rank of America's highway engineer's but has shown himself able to cope with Hawaii's peculiar conditions, both of physical construction and of political intricacy.

By the time the convention meets in Honolulu next year, some of these problems will be on the way to settlement. But others will not have been settled, and still others will have arisen in the meantime. There will be plenty to do, and the right way to do it is the cooperative way.

SALOON LOCATIONS AND PROPERTY-HOLDERS

Attorney-general Lindsay's decision as to what constitutes a property "holder" within the meaning of the term as used in the statutes governing the issuance of a liquor license, is a common-sense decision. He interprets the law as meaning that only property-owners and bona-fide lessees whose term of lease is a year or more are property "holders". Mere tenants-at-will, he says, are not property-holders.

The attorney-general's decision is exactly along the lines advocated by this paper. The STAR-BULLETIN believes that actual owners, responsible tenants and those whose tenancy is of a somewhat permanent character are the people most vitally interested in the location of a saloon in their neighborhood. To give every tenant, leaseholder or not, a right to say whether a license should be issued for a location, at once opens the way for the liquor interests to rush through what amounts to dummy voting, in order to get a saloon established. It would be fairly easy to secure signatures to a petition of people who have little or no permanent interest in a neighborhood.

At the same time, every tenant, lessee or not, should be able to go before the license commission and voice his opinion. The commission has considerable discretionary power, particularly as to the character of the applicant for a license or a renewal, and the opinions of the entire neighborhood should be taken into account in the use of this discretionary power.

As to the Anti-Saloon League's campaign to get saloons off Alakea street, there ought to be no difference of opinion in the community on this. Alakea street should be freed of the saloon and its unsavory features just as Fort street is freed.

HAWAII'S NATIONAL PARK

The STAR-BULLETIN's wireless news from Hilo today that the necessity has arisen for a greater national park than the Kilauea reserve first proposed, is a call for speedy action on the part of the people of this territory.

Congress has had for some time the plans for the national park on Hawaii. Prof. Jaggard, a leading American authority on volcanoes, is devoting some of the best years of his life to a study of Hawaiian volcanoes, and he sees now the need of a reserve embracing Haleakala.

Secretary Fisher's ideas on the subject must of course guide local action. In any case, inaction on the part of the people of Hawaii will endanger the entire plan. Now that we have Secretary Fisher on the ground, let's convince him of the necessity for the reserve.

AUTHORSHIP AND POLITICS

The United States, though paying due respect and royalties to its authors, is notably slow to confer political honors upon them, which makes the nomination of Winston Churchill as Progressive candidate for governor of New Hampshire all the more interesting.

Churchill has been prominent in the politics of his state for a number of years, once before seeking the governorship on a platform of opposition to the powerful railroad interests which dominate his state. He was beaten by the railroads that time, and they are again opposing him. Churchill is an author militant. He tilts his pen at corporate influences in an entertaining way, one of his well-known novels dealing with railroad corruption in state and national politics.

The men who have risen to political preferment by way of authorship are indeed few in the United States, whose presidents, with one exception, have been either lawyers or military heroes. Newspapermen have been more often in public life than novelists, essayists or other freelance authors, doubtless because newspapermen are brought more directly in contact with the leaders in government. Thus Walter E. Clark, a Washington correspondent, was made governor of Alaska and is serving with distinction.

Among free lances, Booth Tarkington's ability to write fiction around Indiana politics won him a seat in the Indiana legislature, where his service was not especially notable, and George Ade, the humorist, has such a hold on the hearts of his fellow-Hoosiers that he found some difficulty a few months ago in declining a chance at the governorship.

Roosevelt is an author, of course, but not a writer by profession. Most of our presidents have contributed something to the world of books, if only a collection of speeches. Generally speaking, however, American writers have not been prominent in public office. The majority of the great ones have preferred to hold their freedom of speech and stay out of office.

In Europe, authorship and statesmanship go more often hand in hand. France has conferred high political favor on many wielders of the pen, and Britain on a number. The first president of the Republic of Portugal is an author and philosopher of note.

In America the glare and glare of politics is not usually attractive to the writer, who prefers a measure of solitude and time for reflection. More and more, however, the authors of America are finding material and local color in political conditions, and correspondingly are taking a personal interest in the government of their country.

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

A citizen of Honolulu complimented this paper yesterday upon its policy of printing "straight news", as he called it, in its columns. That's the policy the STAR-BULLETIN announced when its first issue was published, and the policy it aims to adhere to. The STAR-BULLETIN's columns are open to every citizen for legitimate expression of opinion, and it welcomes such expression. Of one thing the readers of this paper may rest assured, — its first principle is to give the public the facts, uncolored by personal opinion, and insofar as it is possible for human effort to go, that effort will be directed toward publishing a paper of, by and for the people of Hawaii. "The People's Paper" is the ideal of the STAR-BULLETIN.

It has been suggested to the STAR-BULLETIN that a number of artesian wells in the city are untouched at present and that the territorial board of public works can get water to tide over the shortage by making arrangements for pumping from the wells. This suggestion deserves further consideration.

With Knox and Fisher on the platform, Hawaii will open the Republican territorial campaign in some style. The best that grand old state, Ohio, could do was to get Lodge, a mere United States senator, to raise the curtain.

The United States is again administering the Santo Domingo customs. One of the customs seems to be a revolution every month.

The Montessori system of teaching ought to become popular with a certain brand of politicians, the chief thing being the "touch".

With the suffragettes wearing protective armor, our hopes for international peace and disarmament have suffered a cruel blow.

Evidently there are plenty of people in Honolulu who see too much whisky being mixed into local politics.

Cutting off the light to get power to supply water is robbing Peter to pay Paul with a vengeance.

LETTERS ON TIMELY TOPICS

MORE LIGHT ON AN ACCIDENT.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin:—The Rev. F. A. Saylor has been so grossly misrepresented in certain letters which have appeared in the Star-Bulletin and the morning paper that in the interest of justice and fair dealing I ask space for a letter written by Mr. F. W. Gesell, an eye-witness.

Hoping that you can comply with my request,

Respectfully yours,
HENRY B. RESTARUCK

AN EYE-WITNESS'S STORY OF THE MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin:—Several letters have been written about the recent motorcycle accident on King street. These are so full of inaccuracies that I, as an eye-witness, desire to remove the injustice which has been done the Rev. F. A. Saylor by the absolutely false statements which have been made.

In the first place, it has repeatedly been said that W. Lynn McCrackin was riding in the basket of the motorcycle. Mr. Rice in yesterday morning's Advertiser infers that Mr. McCrackin was in the basket. As a matter of fact, the one riding in the basket was the undersigned, F. W. Gesell. This error alone is of a character with the other statements made, and just as correct.

The facts are briefly these: Mr. Saylor and myself were riding in an Ewa direction on King street at a moderate pace. The boy started to cross the street to the mail-carrier, Frazier, who was driving along with his back to us. The carrier did not stop his cart at once, which compelled the boy to cross the street diagonally. The mother afterward stated to me that when she saw the boy crossing the road, she called to him to be careful. The boy, on hearing his mother's voice, stopped for a second. If he had not stopped, if he had taken another step, the front wheel of the motorcycle would not have touched him and he would have made another step and been clear of the wheel. Mr. Saylor's motorcycle was running between the car tracks. When the boy stopped for a second, if Mr. Saylor had turned to the left he would have overturned his machine and would have hit the boy anyway, and have jeopardized our lives. If he had turned to the right, he would have run into the mail-carrier's cart. In either event, several people would have been seriously injured, and not one. Sizing up the situation, Mr. Saylor promptly stopped his machine. This is shown by the fact that when the motorcycle came to a stop, it was less than three feet in front of the boy. Mr. Saylor and I at once got off the machine and for Mr. Frazier, the mail-carrier, beside the boy, and then he started to pick him up. Frazier appeared to be excited and started to put the boy down again without carrying him any distance whatever. Frazier then began to abuse Mr. Saylor, who pushed him aside, and then Mr. Saylor took the boy up in his arms and carried him to his home and put him on a bed. Mr. Saylor's clothes were blood-stained by this act, yet Mr. Rice, in a letter appearing in your paper states that Mr. Saylor refused to carry his son into the house, but stood arguing while Frazier and the passenger took him in, whereas, I never touched the boy until he was on the bed. This is on a par with the rest of Rice's statements, which are infamously unjust to the man who kept cool and did what there was to be done.

The boy being on the bed, Mr. Saylor asked for water to wash the blood off the boy's face. This was brought by a Japanese woman. The mother, a Hawaiian, threw herself on the floor and screamed. I induced her to go into another room, where she sat down on a lounge, I staying with her, trying to compose her. Meanwhile, Mr. Saylor was bathing the boy's face and carefully washing his wounds. In about ten minutes I went into the room where the boy was, and found him conscious and talking. A number of Hawaiians were in the room wringing their hands, and the only person who kept cool besides Mr. Saylor, was the Japanese woman who brought water and clothes and helped generally.

Most of this time, Frazier, the mail carrier, who had left his mail wagon in the street, spent in going from the room where the boy was to the room where the mother was, abusing Mr. Saylor in a loud manner. He must have been absent from his mail cart, in my judgment, for nearly half an hour. This I know to be contrary to the ruling of the Postal Department and I call the attention of the Postmaster to the fact.

Shortly after the boy had recovered consciousness, I went again to the room where the mother was and told her the boy was talking.

I then returned to the boy and proceeded to take off his clothes. Mr. Saylor going into the room where the mother was.

I, with the assistance of the Japanese woman, undressed the boy and

found by examination that no bones were broken, but I found that there were bruises and abrasions, on the arms and legs. The only bad cut was a scalp wound on the upper part of the forehead. The boy also lost one of his upper front teeth. Having undressed him and put on his pajamas, brought me by the Japanese woman, I sat on the bed and fanned the boy. While I was fanning him, Mr. Saylor, who had been talking to the mother, returned and changed the cold, damp cloth on the boy's forehead.

About half an hour after the accident the doctor and father arrived. The father, at the sight of the boy, who spoke to him, went down on his knees and rocked to and fro greatly excited. Mr. Saylor handed the doctor his card.

While the doctor was examining the boy, Mr. Saylor and myself went up town and purchased some flowers for the boy and took them back, being absent, perhaps, three-quarters of an hour. On entering the house Mr. Saylor stated that the doctor had said that Mr. Saylor ought to pay the bill. Mr. Saylor said that he intended to do so.

The father had evidently heard the mail carrier's story and repeated statements to Mr. Saylor which he, Rice, said that Frazier had made to him, which statements, I had previously heard Frazier make to others.

We saw the boy before we left, and he was quiet and apparently asleep. What I have stated above is what I saw and heard myself. I have gone into details, because Mr. Saylor has been most unjustly misrepresented. When Mr. Rice says that when asked why he did not turn aside, Mr. Saylor said if he had done so he would have smashed the machine, he again is cruelly in error. Mr. Saylor saw that if he had turned out he would not only have smashed the machine, but would have endangered the life of his passenger and the boy as well as himself.

Throughout the entire incident Mr. Saylor, despite the abuse heaped upon him, was cool and collected, and acted as a Christian gentleman. No letters could possibly have been written which so grossly misrepresented the facts of this unfortunate occurrence, as those which have been printed.

FREDERIC W. GESELL.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

H. GOODING FIELD—The Hilo convention was a great success. Great enthusiasm and an assured spirit of cooperation.

C. F. LOOMIS—We have decided to promote cross-country running this fall in the Y. M. C. A. under the direction of W. L. Johnson, assistant physical director.

D. J. RICKER—There are about forty fellows out for football practice at Punahou. Our team will probably not be as strong as last year as we have lost ten of our star players.

BERTRAM RIVENBURGH—The Democratic candidates will meet this afternoon and select their advisory committee and its chairman. After this we will be ready to move right along.

CHIEF OF DETECTIVES McDUFFIE—You would be surprised to see the quantity of loot that we found in the rooms of Sam Kahi, the recaptured prisoner. The stuff represents the result of a number of recent burglaries, we are told.

J. WALTER DOYLE—It will be a great thing for Honolulu to get the Lombardi Opera company here, and I believe there will be little difficulty raising the money required when the people understand the high character of the talent in the company.

FRED. TIRRELL—I was told the other day of a hen at Kaimuki that lays two eggs daily, for the reason that the owner gives the fowl a liberal allowance of beer. I am unable to account for the relation of beer to hen-fruit, so pass it out for what it is worth.

J. H. TOWNSEND, Japanese interpreter, district court—I am still here and doing business at the old stand, despite the announcement in the morning paper of my return to Japan in the Nippon Maru last evening. Mrs. Townsend and two children, a son and daughter, did leave for Japan in the liner, however.

MANAGER HERTSCHE, Young Hotel—The marble for the downstairs lobby has arrived and the man to place it is here. We expect to open the magnificent downstairs office about the middle of December.

ED. TOWSE—The next thing in Honolulu will be a separate building for the boys' department of the Y. M. C. A. I am not able to say just when this will come about, but according to the way the membership of the association is increasing, I do not think it will be very long.

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